

#2/A  
2-26-01  
M.L.

Docket No. 1232-4303US2

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) Seishi Ejiri

Serial No.: Cont. of 08/733,493

Group Art 2756  
Unit:

Filed: Herewith

Examiner: Unassigned

For: DATA COMMUNICATION APPARATUS AND METHOD

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Prior to the examination on the merits, please ~~amend~~ the above-identified application  
as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please ~~amend~~ the specification as follows:

Page 1, before the first line, ~~insert~~ - This application is a divisional of co-

pending application Serial No. 08/733,493 filed October 18, 1996. ~~to~~

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please ~~CANCEL~~ claims 1-17, without prejudice.

Please add ~~NEW~~ claims 18-54 as follows:

18. (New) A data processing apparatus which performs a data process via  
a local area network (LAN) and a communication line other than the LAN, comprising:  
reception means for receiving data designated to a plurality of  
receivers, from a transmission side via the communication line;